

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-80. (Canceled)

81. (Currently Amended) A medical or surgical fastener for securing a tube to a patient, said medical or surgical fastener comprising:

a sterile tubular sleeve of variable length having a first aperture through which a tube can pass at a first end of the sleeve and a second aperture through which a tube can pass at the second end of the sleeve, the sleeve ~~capable of gripping a~~ configured such that when lengthened of gripping a length of a tube between the first and second apertures within the sleeve, the sleeve will grip the tube to exert a compressive gripping force evenly distributed around the tube and along a length of the tube in the sleeve and ~~such that the sleeve~~ will further lengthen in response to movement of the tube to increase the compressive gripping force, and when shortened ~~of sliding along the tube~~ the compressive gripping force will be released to permit the tube to move relative to the sleeve, wherein the sterile tubular sleeve has a perforated or foraminous wall that includes a plurality of filaments helically woven to define a plurality of openings in the wall; and ~~wherein the sterile tubular sleeve further comprises~~

attachment means ~~for attaching~~ configured to couple the sleeve to a patient.

82. (Previously Presented) A fastener according to claim 81, wherein the attachment means comprises one or more loops.

83. (Previously Presented) A fastener according to claim 82, wherein the or each loop is formed by doubling over the sleeve.

84. (Previously Presented) A fastener according to claim 81, wherein the attachment means comprises a harness, sling or other means for embracing a part of the patient.